

DON'T FORGET THE RED CROSS



The

Oil

World.



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## More Important Wildcat Wells Are Completed; Big Deals In Wolfe and Bath Oil Lands Are Made

### McCombs Oil Company Reported To Have Made Big Purchase

The McCombs Oil Company, one of the most progressive concerns operating in the Kentucky fields, has purchased 6,000 acres, it is reported, in Wolfe and Lee counties, for a sum said to aggregate \$400,000.

The purchase includes 55 producing wells in the old Campton field, in Wolfe county, which consists of the greater portion of the old district, and the wells on this property have been pumping from six to sixteen years.

In Lee county, the McCombs Oil Company secured in this deal, the Adams heirs property, which adjoins the Lee Watson leases, also adjoining is the Jack Spencer and Bush properties, including about 700 acres around Zachariah on which there are seven producing wells, and other well drilling.

This purchase was made from the Beckett-Iseman Oil and Gas Company.

#### Property in Olympian Fields Sold.

A deal which has been pending for some time has been closed at Owensville, whereby Edward B. Rich, of Philadelphia, Pa., representing Pennsylvania capital, becomes owner of the interests of the J. N. Marcum Oil Company, the Cow Creek Oil Company, J. E. Thompson, David Fox and T. B. Staggs, composing some 625 acres of oil land in the Olympian fields of Bath county. The deal includes about 2,500 barrels of oil, now standing in tanks on the property, equipment, etc.

The Crouch heirs property composing 20 acres; the H. G. Crouch farm of 50 acres; Anderson McCarty, 106 acres; J. S. Blevins, 130 acres, were involved in the deal. The consideration was paid in cash, but the amount was not made public.

At present there are seven producing wells on the property, two of which made better than 10 barrels each, the first ten days after they were drilled in. They are all less than 250 feet in depth. No drilling has been done in the neighborhood of the wells for several months owing to the delay in securing pipe line facilities, but it is understood that the Cumberland Pipe Line Company will construct a line from the production to Salt Lick, as soon as material can be obtained. The wells are about three miles from Salt Lick, where the storage tanks of the Cumberland, which receive the output of the Ragland fields, are situated.

It is understood that the purchasers of the Olympian acreage will at once organize a company to develop the field. Summer will doubtless see an extension of the old field, which owing to inadequate shipping facilities had been neglected for more productive fields.

#### Other Lease Deals.

News comes from Allen county, of the sale of the Jack Stovault property, containing 93 acres, situated in the northern part of Allen county, in proximity with what is known as the Johnson-Moore pool, by J. Dan Stark, for a consideration of something like \$10,000.

Announcement has been made here of the purchase of the Simeon Rowland tract of 150 acres, lying in Estill, Lee and Jackson counties, for a consideration of about \$3,000. George B. Williams and W. S. Raydure, the purchasers, are making preparation to begin active development work.

#### FURTHER CUT IN AUTOMOBILE PRODUCTION

Plans have been prepared by the War Industries Board and the Fuel Administration to restrict the manufacture of passenger automobiles to approximately 25 per cent of the normal output. Under an agreement with the manufacturers, entered into voluntarily, the output has already been reduced 30 per cent. The new rules, if adopted, will mean an additional curtailment of from 45 to 50 per cent. The cut in manufacture will not affect seriously the portions of plants used in construction of motor trucks which may be used for war work, or as an aid to transportation problems.

Less than five per cent of the revenues of our government come nowadays from the custom houses. About thirteen per cent of England's revenue is derived from customs duties. England is reckoned a free trade country. Where shall the United States be classed?

Secretary Baker has promised more speed, so we take it that he has not heretofore been functioning at top speed. It took a trip to Europe to establish a conviction which should have found firm lodgment in Baker's mind the day he took his oath of office as Secretary, March 9, 1916. What will be the toll in lives for two dilatory years? Compare Baker with Garrison, whose notions of preparedness and speed were "hysterical," and resulted in his retirement, and then place the blame.

### Joe Hervey On Oil Committee

In order to attend to matters affecting the oil industry in Kentucky, Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Southeastern Ohio, an advisory committee for Appalachian Production has been appointed. J. T. Hervey, of the Cherokee Oil Company, of Lexington, has been named a member of the committee.

In order to obtain efficient co-operation in the oil fields, a divisional system pursued by Mark L. Requa, head of the oil division, and a committee, similar to the Appalachian, will likely be appointed in the mid-continent, gulf coast, and other fields of the country.

Other members of the Appalachian Production Committee, which will be in close touch with the oil division, are as follows:

George W. Crawford, of Pittsburg, president of the Ohio Fuel Oil Company; Thomas Phillips, Jr., president of the Phillips Oil & Gas Company; L. W. Young, Jr., of Pittsburg, Pa., president of the South Penn Oil Company; Thomas H. Kennedy, of Bradford, of the Kennedy oil interests; E. P. Whitcomb, of Pittsburg, president of the Preston Oil Company; John Davidson, of Charleston, W. Va., second vice president of the Oil & Gas Producers' Association of West Virginia; J. E. Trainer, of Salem, W. Va.; John Mills, of Marietta, O.; Fred O. Funk, of Parkersburg, W. Va.; Arthur E. Corwin, of New York, president of the Carter Oil Company; Norwood Johnston, of Pittsburg.

The committee met in Pittsburgh, recently, and organized by the election of George W. Crawford as chairman, with Thomas Phillips, Jr., as vice chairman, and L. W. Young as secretary.

George W. Crawford was also recently elected a member of the National Petroleum War Service Committee and will represent the advisory committee on that board.

On organizing, the committee immediately went into conference with T. A. O'Donnell, adviser to M. L. Requa, Director of the Oil Division of the Fuel Administration, on all matters pertaining to production and with T. B. Gregory, of Emlenton, Pa., recently appointed by Mr. O'Donnell as the representative of the production department of the Fuel Administration for the Appalachian Production district. George W. Davidson, president of the Gulf Refining Company and member of the National Petroleum War Service Committee, and A. C. Bedford, chairman of the National Petroleum War Service Committee, also met with the committee.

#### NEW KENTUCKY OIL CORPORATIONS.

Announcement was made in Lexington yesterday of the organization of the Liberty Oil, Gas and Manufacturing Company, with a capital stock of \$100,000. The headquarters of the concern will be located in Lexington.

The new corporation will take over the holdings of J. H. Dugan, J. S. Braden, and Atkinson, in the Stanton field of Powell county. This property includes two producing wells, and the John Williams lease, the wells being of from 10 to 85 barrels capacity, with the third drilling. No. 1 on this farm was the first producing well drilled in the field, and as a result, wells are now being drilled on the Robert Blackburn farm, on the west, by the owner of the farm, and on the Clark property, to the south of the Williams lease, by unknown parties.

The new corporation will prosecute a vigorous testing campaign in all parts of the Stanton field.

The incorporators are J. S. Braden and J. H. Dugan, of Lexington; M. L. Brown, of Wheeling, West Virginia, and W. B. Hughes and R. L. Fletcher, of Cameron, West Virginia.

J. H. Dugan, one of the incorporators, leaves on the 27th for Camp Lee, West Virginia, where he will enter the service of the country.

#### At Winchester.

At Winchester, the Local Oil & Gas Company has filed articles of incorporation with a capital stock of \$100,000, to develop a portion of the holdings of L. V. Mullen, in the Kentucky fields. The new corporation will also take over the three gas wells belonging to Mr. Mullen at Mize, in Morgan county, which have a daily capacity of something over 3,000,000 feet; also a portion of his Lee county holdings, including a production of about 200 barrels daily, with another well drilling. Officials of the company will be elected at a meeting to be held in Winchester Thursday night.

#### At Carlisle.

Articles of incorporation of the Carlisle Oil & Development Company were filed in the office of the clerk of the Nicholas county court at Carlisle, during the week. T. L. Clark, Minor Judge, W. E. Hume, U. M. Swinford and Ed Stump were named as incorporators. The capital stock of the company is \$15,000. The company has an option on some acreage in Lee county.

#### At Jackson.

The Big Six Oil Company, with a capital of \$50,000, has been incorporated at Jackson and immediate development will be begun on

### Well In Owsley County May Result In Much Development In District

Wildcat activities in the Kentucky fields continue to unfold in scope with the closing of each week. Reports of the completion of the first producing well in Owsley county were brought in by Lexington during the week. The producer is the property of the Meadows Oil Company, of Bradford, Pa., and is on the farm of G. L. Meadows, Meadow Creek, it being No. 3 on the tract. An initial test, however, shows that the well will make something over 100 barrels, and it will be shot this week. The well was drilled for the Meadows Oil Company by the Meadows Creek Oil & Gas Company, of Bradford, Pa., which has gotten two dry holes in the same vicinity. The well was drilled in at an approximate depth of 140 feet. In the event the new well comes up to expectations, a vast amount of wildcat acreage in Owsley county will likely be developed during the coming summer, since many Kentucky oil concerns, owning hundreds of acres in Owsley have held up their hands, waiting for the outcome of the tests along Meadow Creek. Since the completion of this is the first well drilled in Owsley county, it is expected that commercial quantities, although efforts to locate more wildcat fields have been made on several occasions.

Another important wildcat well was drilled by the Meadows Oil Company, on the farm of G. L. Meadows, Meadow Creek, it being No. 2, and one-half mile east of Mize. This well, it is expected, will be shot early part of the week, and will be a producer. The well was drilled by the Meadows Oil Company, of Bradford, Pa., and is on the farm of G. L. Meadows, Meadow Creek, it being No. 2, and one-half mile east of Mize.

On the K. Dunning farm, in Lincoln county, the Meadows Oil Company has a five-barrel well, after a shot. This well, it is expected, will be shot during well drilled in in the vicinity of the Dunning farm.

The Daniel Boone Oil Company, of Winchester, has drilled another well on the Joseph Weiland farm, in Lincoln county, it being No. 2, and indications are that this well will make something over 100 barrels. The Weiland farm, which was one of the first in Lincoln county to be penetrated by the drill is situated between Boone and Wayneburg. Other development in this section will be made shortly, it having been well tested in the past.

Efforts to have the Cumberland Pipe Line Company connect their pipes into Lincoln, are being made, although under the existing high price of material, this is not probable at the present time. Still, production from that county now is something like 100 barrels daily, and a few of the producing wells, however, are being pumped.

In Cumberland county, the Capital City Oil Company, of Charleston, W. Va., has moved a rig to the T. L. Roberts farm, near Marrobone creek, and are spudding in.

On the Graves farm, in Salt Lick field, the Lexington Oil Company, of Kentucky, is drilling No. 1.

In Elliott county, the Bourbon Oil and Development Company is drilling at 575 feet at No. 1, L. C. Pritchard.

In Pulaski county, the Best Oil Company is drilling No. 2, on the H. Gibson farm. No. 1 was dry.

#### Irvine Field.

In Lee county, on the Tyler Hughes farm, the Woodfolk Oil Company has a well credited with 25 barrels. This farm is about three quarters of a mile in advance of the Hopewell Signboard pool.

The Ohio Oil Company, drilling No. 2, Charles Evelyn, got a 100-barrel producer. No. 1 also is rated at 100 barrels. The same company, drilling on the Mart Olinger farm, near Pinecastle, have a producer credited with five barrels at No. 2. No. 1 is a 10 barrel pumper. The rig is being moved to No. 3.

E. M. Nowell and others got one for 20 barrels, at No. 3, E. S. Smith.

The Southwestern Petroleum Company, of Lexington, has drilled in No. 13 on the property of the Rucka Coal, Land and Mineral Company, known as the Courtenay tract. The well looks good for about 20 barrels, daily. The same company will drill in No. 2 Malin Jones today.

In the Ross creek district, the Peerless Oil Company's first on the Dave Hampton farm is rated at 75 barrels or better.

The Combination Oil Company are due in with No. 1 Kincaid, at Tallega.

The Laurel Oil & Gas Company has brought in their No. 2, on the Moss St. John lease. It is good for 100 barrels. One-third of the stock of this company is owned by L. V. Mullen, who has turned it over to the Local Oil & Gas Company, which was recently organized here.

The Columbia Oil & Gas Company, drilling on the E. S. Moore farm have a well credited with 20 barrels or better at 32 feet in the sand.

The Bankers Oil Company are drilling No. 1, Joel Hubbard.

(Continued on Page Eight, Second Column)

(Continued on Page Eight, First Column)



## GENERAL OIL NEWS

R. L. McMurray has drilled a well on his farm near Parsons, Kan., to a depth of 401 feet and it is expected to be a forty-barrel pumper.

Oil counties of Oklahoma have made a great showing in the Third Liberty Loan. Oil men have both patriotism and money, it appears.

In Wyoming, the spring drive in oil-field operations is getting under way and a bumper year in oil production in that State is anticipated.

E. L. Dolney, of Los Angeles, Cal., known throughout the country as an oil man, has taken \$1,000,000 worth of bonds in the Third Liberty Loan.

Exceptional Oil Company and Unusual Oil Company are names of concerns now operating in the Mid-Continent field. They are Colorado companies.

Owing to the scarcity of steel and iron, all metal receptacles used in distributing oil and its products should be promptly emptied and returned to the distributors.

In Wyoming the Upton-Sun Dance fields are being developed by the Ohio Oil Company and a big oil boom in Northern Wyoming and Southern Montana is predicted.

Warren (Pa.) refineries are getting relief from the overstocked condition which has affected them for some time. Cars are becoming available again and the oil is being moved.

At Cleveland, Okla., the American Oil & Tank Line Company has enlarged its refinery and is well equipped to carry on its business. The refinery's capacity is 1,200 barrels daily.

Denial of the report that the Standard Oil Company of New York is about to erect a refinery and an oil-can factory at Providence, R. I., is made in a dispatch from New York City.

Five carloads of material have been delivered at Edgerton, Kan., for use in pipe-line extensions of the Kansas Natural Gas Company. Connections are to be made with a gas field north of Ottawa, Kan.

Cumberland Pipe Line Company is connecting up with many new oil strikes in Kentucky. Work of laying new lines has been retarded by bad roads, but fair progress is being made now by the pipe-line crews.

Near Oakland, Ill., on the Sam Dangherly farm, a test well is being drilled and the entire neighborhood is watching developments with intense interest. The people thereabouts are convinced that they are in an oil area.

Trinity Oil Company officers have called a special stockholders' meeting, to be held May 28, at the company's Denver offices, for the purpose of dissolving the company and the appointment of a trustee to liquidate its affairs.

Pinct Sound Natural Gas Company is starting a well in the vicinity of Wellington, Wash., "on the Smith road, just off the Northwest Diagonal," as a local paper states. It is believed that oil may be found there as well as gas.

At El Paso, Texas, a \$50,000 partnership concern has been organized to drill for oil on Zack T. White's lands between Courchesne and Vinton, Texas. Dr. B. Morgan, a zoologist, has favorably reported on the oil possibilities of the district.

L. G. Martin, of Emporia, Kan., who is spoken of by an Arkansas City paper as an "oil and gas vein locator," has become convinced that there is oil in the earth under that city. He thinks the vein extends from the field already developed.

At Spokane, Wash., the Smu River Oil & Gas Company has re-elected the retiring board of officers. The secretary-treasurer reports a substantial cash surplus, accounts receivable, more than 50,000 shares in the treasury, and no indebtedness.

Petersburg, Ind., is having an oil boom and the Press of that town states that prospects now indicate great activity during the coming summer. Large acreage has been leased by oil companies and preparations for operations are briskly under way.

To receive oil from the Fossil field, in Wyoming, a plant is to be constructed at Horsman and another at Opal, Wyo. Oil from other fields will also be handled at the Opal refinery. Oil operators are furnishing the capital for the refining project.

Appraisal of the properties of the Jamestown Oil Company in Ohio has been completed by M. J. Lynch, W. H. Jones and J. A. Mahan, their valuation being \$70,843. This company's affairs have of late been administered by a receiver, W. B. Eschbeck.

Fort Worth, Texas, is having a business boom on account of oil. Refineries there are increasing their capacities and pipe-line facilities. Oklahoma has been increased also. A local paper says "Fort Worth is to become the center of the Southwest."

W. E. Estep, of Cleveland, Okla., has returned from Washington, where he obtained a patent on an oil separator. The device separates oil from impurities and is said to be very effective. Mr. Estep is now in the Kansas fields and will probably apply his invention there.

At Cincinnati, Ohio, last week the National Foreign Trade Council held a meeting. A. C. Be Herd, chairman of the advisory committee on oil of the Council on National Defense, in his talk at the meeting, said oil men have forgotten their differences in the common effort to win the war.

Many men who have been employed as laborers in oil-field work are being attracted to the farms in Western States. Wages for agricultural work are better than they formerly were and the boarding accommodations are more satisfactory than can be found in some of the oil fields.

"Gasoline Raiders," automobile owners who form flying squadrons for emergency service in speeding the mobilizing of State troops for military duty were mobilized, have been added to the "Liberty Guards" of the State of Indiana, under the direction of the State Council of Defense.

On the Island of Lobos, off the Tampico coast, a new wireless station has been erected for the purpose of enabling oil companies to communicate with their vessels at sea. The station is adequately equipped and can send its vibrations to Mexico City and many other parts of Mexico.

Determined efforts are to be made in Mercer county, Missouri, to strike oil. A local syndicate is backing the scheme and hopes to connect up with new production and bring untold riches to the community. A real anticline is said to be located nearby and its spinal column is to be punctured.

Gasoline prices abroad are high. Wall Street reports give the current prices in many countries of gasoline per gallon, showing that the figures in Germany are 80; Austria, 86; Sweden, \$1.75; Greece, \$1.60; Holland, \$1.50; Denmark, \$1.35; France, \$1.25; Spain, \$1.10; Italy, \$1, and Great Britain, 95 cents.

All dealers in oil are to be placed under license and the likelihood is that the license will be extended to include manufacturers and distributors throughout the oil industry, according to a statement issued last week by M. L. Regan, Director of the Oil Division of the United States Fuel Administration.

Salt Lake City (Utah) oil stock dealers have protested against that city's "blue sky" ordinance. They claim it is entirely too drastic and have asked that it be repealed. They were told by city officials to draw an ordinance which would be suitable to them and to submit it to the council for action. This they promised to do.

In an electric storm, recently, lightning fired a tank of the Sinclair-Cudahy Pipe Line Company at Skiatook, Okla. It was a 55,000-barrel tank and the contents consisted of about 20,000 barrels of oil. In the same locality the same company lost also a 1,600-barrel tank, filled with crude. Other oil-fire losses are also reported.

Clarence Hunt, while at work on an oil well between Sedan and Elgin, Kan., last week, was struck by a piece of metal on the head and his skull was fractured. He was taken to a hospital at Independence, but nothing effective could be done to save his life. Death soon resulted. He is survived by his wife and a child.

At La Junta, Colo., a check for \$125.40 has been received by the Ford Oil & Gas Company for oil delivered to a pipe line and a newspaper published in the town states that this is the first real money from an oil enterprise ever received there, notwithstanding the fact that hundreds of promotions have been exploited at La Junta.

Three damage suits, each for \$5,000, have been filed against the Okmulgee (Okla.) Gas Company. Last February three boys, while at play, struck a match, igniting gas from defective pipes belonging to the company. The lads were severely burned. Now their parents sue the company, alleging negligence because the pipes leaked.

"His Mother's Boy," featuring Charley Ray, is an oil-field screen play. An oil man, deceased, the victim of a dark conspiracy, has been maligned. His son decides to set matters right and he does so as an oil-field worker. The oil for-

## OIL MEN TAKE UP MINING

Kentucky is rich in mineral resources and practically every county in the State seems to contain some kind of mineral material of present or future commercial value. Something like half the counties in Kentucky are undergoing oil development.

Both Eastern and Western Kentucky have extensive deposits of high-grade coal, the development of which has already added a hundred million dollars to the State's wealth, while many hundreds of millions of dollars in value still lie undeveloped.

The revenue from oil and gas production during the current year will approximate thirteen million dollars, with only a comparatively small part of the probable oil area in the State developed.

In the Bluegrass section probably 3,000 square miles of rich farming land is underlaid with limestone, highly valuable in its soil-strengthening elements, and much of it carrying a considerable percentage of phosphate.

In Rockcastle and other southeastern counties there are limestone caverns and caves containing more than 100,000 tons of low-grade potassium phosphate (saltpeter), which, if not of present commercial value, undoubtedly will at some future time be utilized as a natural fertilizer.

Valuable building materials are quarried in many sections of the State.

A tier of counties, from Madison on the east to Livingston and Crittenden on the west, contains important commercial deposits of calcite fluorite and barytes. Because of the tremendous demand for these minerals, and the resultant profit in mining them a number of well-known oil men have extended their enterprise to this field. Prominent among these is Mr. Yost, who, with his associates, has acquired valuable holdings in Western Kentucky.

Calcite, or calcium carbonate, is used in crushed form as a filler for rubber manufacture and extensively as a pigment in the paint and allied industries; it is used largely in the manufacture of glass and as a flux in the manufacture of steel.

Barytes is used principally in the paint and pigment industries. Fluorspar (fluorite) is used principally in steel manufacture and for the manufacture of acids having a fluorine base.

The veins carrying these minerals are vertical, and probably extend to great depth. These veins are found altogether apparently in Kentucky, in limestone fissures varying from a fraction of an inch up to twenty feet or more in width. The fissures are vertical and are frequently traceable, by surface indications, for many miles.

These minerals were all deposited in the fissures or cracks in the limestone by the waters which covered the surface of the earth during that geological period and which held the essential minerals and crystallizing agents in solution. In many veins two and in some instances all three of these minerals are found to have been deposited in association.

At present prices, there is a profit of ten to twenty dollars per ton in mining and marketing fluorite, and an average of more than ten dollars in calcite and barytes.

There are two large plants near Lexington, one at Nicholasville and one at Mundy's Landing, the former handling fluorite and baryta and the latter handling some fluorite, but principally calcite.

There are a number of good-sized operations in western Kentucky, these principally on fluorite.

There are also a number of custom mills where the mineral is washed and crushed.

Considering the importance of these materials, the extremely simple mining problems involved, the small investment required, the growing demand for them and the rather extraordinary profit in the business, it is somewhat surprising that these deposits have not attracted greater development.

Without going further into detail, there are a number of concerns in the business (and whose investment is in every case comparatively small) having a capacity of sixty to two hundred tons daily.

Several of these operations should, with reasonably good management, be now making a net profit of six hundred to two thousand dollars daily.

tune which had been taken from the family is recovered. "His Mother's Boy" saves the day.

Spokane, Wash., still expects to use natural gas piped to it from the Benton county field, and it is expected that a gas line will be laid in order to carry out the plans of those behind the project. It will be necessary to drill wells and increase the supply considerably before the enterprise will materialize as a serious business proposition.

Talmadge Brothers have located a test well five and one-half miles northwest of Pueblo, Colo., and the work of drilling will soon be under way. Some years ago an artesian well was put down to a depth of 1,400 feet there. The tools were lost and the well was abandoned. Now the same hole is to be utilized in a deep test which may go to a level of 5,000 feet.

In New Mexico, when a well is drilled for oil and when water is struck instead the owner of the well is not seriously distressed. He can apply his well to irrigation purposes and get good returns from it. Near Alamogordo, recently, the Twin Buttes Oil & Gas Company sold a well that produces water and is now about to drill another hole in search of oil.

In Norway, experiments are being made for running automobiles with acetylene gas as a substitute for gasoline. No gasoline has been obtainable in that country for several months. If present experiments are successful, it is said that a large supply of the substitute gas can be obtained from calcium carbide, which is produced in large quantities in Norway.

At Topeka, Kan., the Prairie Oil & Gas Company and the Prairie Pipe Line Company report resources of more than \$152,000,000, in a statement filed with the Secretary of State, J. T. Borkin. The oil company's assets exceed \$102,000,000, while those of the pipe line company aggregate \$50,000,000. The report indicates that these two oil companies rank among the largest corporations in the State.

At Sapulpa, Okla., suit has been filed against the Eastern Oil Company. The bill of complaint filed in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Oklahoma sets forth that the company, operating oil wells in a district adjacent to the watershed of the city's water works, has polluted the water supply with refuse and drainage from the said wells. Judgment in the sum of \$50,000 is asked.

In the Salt Creek (Wyo.) field, an oil well drilled by the New York Oil Company in 1916 has been a matter of litigation. In the shooting of it something went wrong and the company sued the parties who had done the shooting. Recently the litigation was concluded in favor of the New York Oil Company and the well has been opened. It starts off with a flow of 250 barrels daily. On the pump it would probably produce 100 barrels more per day, says the Casper Tribune.

Cosden & Company are now refining 12,000 to 15,000 barrels of crude oil daily at their three plants. While this is below normal operations, it is an improvement over the last three or four months. It is expected the entire plants will be running at full capacity by June. Capacity of the plants, if operated for the extraction of all the products of crude oil, is 20,000 barrels daily. Production of crude oil is holding up well, averaging 10,000 to 12,000 barrels daily. As a result of increased operations, earnings in the next few months are expected to get back to the normal rate of about \$800,000 net a month.

In commenting on Sinclair stock, recently, the New York Globe said: "Those who were selling Sinclair Oil to the public when it was about 25 points higher are reported as having been the principal buyers of the stock during the last few days. The present strength of the oil-trade position has convinced these people that the stock should be regarded as a long-range proposition and that eventually its financial difficulties will be solved. In marked contrast to the flood of bull pointers which were cleverly disseminated when the stock was in the fifties, there was a total absence of an encouraging word from these same sources today."—Oil and Gas Journal.

SEE OR WRITE

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## Monthly Dividend Notice

McCOMBS OIL COMPANY, 514-16 Inter-Southern Building.  
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The regular monthly dividend of 1% has been declared and will be paid on SATURDAY, MAY 31st, 1918, to all stockholders of record, SATURDAY, MAY 16th, 1918. ABRAM RENICK, President.

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R. E. LUCAS, 1st Vice-Pres., Winchester; S. S. VANTIS, 2nd Vice-Pres., Lexington.  
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Address Correspondence to Chairman of Committee, According to Business

### Executive Committee

J. J. White, of White Bros., Chairman, Lexington, Ky.  
W. E. Mitchell, of the Kentucky River Oil Corp.,  
W. C. Spencer, of the Atlantic Refining & Drilling Company,  
Thos. A. H. of the Sun Oil Company,  
J. W. Foster, of the Southwestern Petroleum Company.

### Legislative Committee

D. B. Foster, of the Cumberland Producing & Refining Company, Chairman, Lexington, Ky.  
R. E. Lucas, of the Wood Oil Company,  
G. B. Watson, of the Security Producing & Refining Company,  
W. H. Ferguson, of the Petroleum Exploration Company.

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M. T. McElroy, Winchester, Ky.  
L. A. Mazon, Winchester, Ky.  
C. E. Hall, of the Empire Oil & Gas Co.,  
C. R. Dunn, of the Dunn Oil Company.

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Vol. 1. SATURDAY, MAY 11, 1918. No. 50.

### THE WARRING WORLD WANTS OIL.

"The oil of this single world to the world's daily production strengthens the arm of Democracy against the Powers of Vandalism and Oppression."

## EDITORIAL

### FUEL OIL CONSUMPTION.

The immense increase in railroad traffic due to the active participation of the United States in the war increased correspondingly the quantity of petroleum and of petroleum distillates consumed as locomotive fuel in 1917, despite their mounting cost and growing scarcity.

Statistics compiled under the supervision of J. D. Northrop, of the United States Geological Survey, Department of the Interior, from reports submitted by all railroad companies that operated oil-burning locomotives in the United States show that the quantity of fuel oil consumed by them in 1917 was 45,707,082 barrels, a gain of 3,580,065 barrels, or 8.5 per cent over 1916 and a larger consumption than in any other year.

The total distance covered by oil-burning engines in 1917 was 93,007,044 miles, and the average distance covered per barrel of fuel consumed was 3.2 miles. Oil-burning locomotives were operated in 1917 over 32,431 miles of track in 21 States.

### ANOTHER GOOD INVESTMENT.

We paid out some Red Cross money a while back. We paid it out and forgot it. That's how much it hurt. Perhaps it would be a good idea to have a look at what that money has been doing.

That money went, dollar for dollar, where it did a full day's work, no matter for what it was appropriated.

Three cents of it may have had the honor of disinfecting with noline the three torn wounds of an American soldier on the French front. Or it may have had the less noble responsibility of pinning a warm flannel belly-band around six-year-old Antoine out back of Noyon.

There's the whole path of ruin from Belgium to Switzerland, just to visualize one thing at a time. If your Red Cross money went there, it very likely provided pots and pans, food and clothes, beds and blankets for the repatriated people. Three years ago these people were prosperous and contented, self-respecting, steady, saving, hard-working every-day small-town citizens.

Now they have the "earth under them and the sky over them," not one thing else, and it is for you to say whether the American Red Cross shall stop its mercy work among these misfortunates.

The Red Cross is yours, just as our army and navy are yours; yours to support with the same fervor and loyalty that led you to the bottom of your purse for Liberty Bond subscriptions. It's for your voice to say whether your Red Cross, now asking for one hundred million dollars, shall falter or sweep onward, greater and more helpful than ever before.

Your dollars must answer.

### THAT LETTER TO THE FRONT.

If you haven't written it, write it now—that letter to the front! It's the most important correspondence you could possibly have. It takes precedence over any business arrangement or social appointment. Some lonely man in France is waiting for it—some man who will turn aside, feeling unspeakably, if the mail-bag comes in bringing communications from home for his comrades and none for him. There's nothing else—not even tobacco—that he wants so much. Candy or chocolate, an armless sweater or a muffler or a pair of

socks (size 11 or 11½) cannot atone to him for the want of the one great desideratum.

And make it a cheerful letter! If you expect him to pack up his troubles in his old kitbag while he is living in a ditch with shells whizzing overhead, then set him an example of good cheer amid your minor worriments here at home. Is there any grievance against Fate you can possibly have to compare with the discomfort and danger he is enduring for your sake? Don't plead with him to quit the service to which he is in honor bound and come home to you a slacker and a quitter. The real soldier says with Lovelace of old, "I could not love thee, dear, so much, loved I not honor more." Let your missive establish the home ties and abridge the distance in the same spirit of loyalty your soldier is proving. Show him that you steadfastly help to preserve the morale here in the home-land; that you are a patriot and a soldier too; and be brave, as he is brave.

A letter to the trenches is not a lifeless bit of paper inscribed with writing fluid; it is a vital link between here and there—it is a bond of communion, a prayer, a token of affection that is unlagging. Do not think that because it deals with matters of the house and family the man to whom it comes will not care for it. Amid whatever things may be lurid and spectacular, hideous or cruel, he wants to be brought back to the green dandelion-studded pasture lot on the old farm and the willows by the brook; he wants to see again the living-room with the books and the yellow lamp and the evening paper; he wants to be reminded of the romping children in the nursery at eventide. These are the antidotes, not the provocatives, of nostalgia. There is no remedy for the homesick man like the letter from home.

—Public Ledger.

### AMERICAN NEEDS FOR ENGLISH CLAY.

Most of us think clay is something as common and abundant as sand or gravel. Consequently it comes as a surprise to be told by the Shipping Board Committee on Mineral Imports and Exports in Washington, that even in this day of great shortage of ocean going ships we have to import from England every year 200,000 to 250,000 long tons of clay. Last year we imported more than 250,000 tons over the ocean.

Furthermore, a great part of this clay comes over in steamers loaded full and the rest in big steamers loaded with clay up to 50 per cent, and more of their maximum carrying capacity. These ships put into Povey, England, for their freight. To get this clay on and off the boats requires ten days on each cargo. An insignificant percentage of the clay is shipped as ballast. This represents small lots loaded into big liners at Liverpool. But it will be seen that the importation of English clay consumes an important amount of ship tonnage measured in days, time lost because of natural delays incident to the transport of this freight.

Why do our manufacturers pay the high freight rates now necessary in order to obtain an article like clay from England? There is, as we all know, an abundance of clay in this country. A great deal of high grade clay is produced here, and of a character suitable for pottery, porcelains and other articles which require clays of special excellence in their manufacture. But not much over half of clay of this grade that our industries require is domestic. When war broke out in 1914 only a third of it was domestic. We have not been able to develop and equip our deposits fast enough to make these English clay imports unnecessary. In fact it is doubtful whether we will produce as much high grade clay in 1918 as we did in 1917. Our manufacturers want the clay but they can not get anywhere near as much as they want. The reduced output is due to railroad and operating conditions and is not related to the character or size of the deposits which are capable of large production.

Domestic producers do not mine their clay quite as cleanly as their English competitors. Nor is the domestic clay as uniform in character. It will not bring the high prices paid for English clay. But more could be sold if it could be produced and carried to its market. Still more could be marketed if cleaner and more uniform clay were produced, for in that event the consumers would use a greater percentage of domestic and correspondingly less English clay in their mixtures.

However, our complete dependence upon English clay continues. We must rely on English clay as a chief ingredient of the dishes we eat from, the paper in our books and magazines, the porcelain in our electric light sockets and half a dozen other articles of less general use.

Fortunately it is a fact that far less English clay is necessary to proper manufacture of paper than is now used. Besides domestic

clay there are many other substances of domestic origin that could be used in the body, not the finish, of this paper. Also over half of the English clay we use is consumed in making paper. So that if a shortage of English clay should develop it would not be highly serious until the shortage became very great, until there was only a half of the normal supply or less available.

### IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENTS.

Probably the most important development of the week—in the sense that it confirms the existence of an entirely new field—is the strike of the Forrest Oil Company on the Rose lease in the southeast corner of Owsley county.

At first reported a five-barrel well, later reports from apparently responsible sources indicate the well will make twenty-five barrels before being shot and before penetrating the extent of the pay sand.

The new well is directly west of the head of Long's Creek, about one mile from the Breathitt county line and within the district where, we have repeatedly stated, the geological formation was favorable. We are informed that one of the best known geologists in the field, who has regarded the Crockettville district as very promising, and who has predicted the opening of a pool on Long's creek, is having considerable justifiable satisfaction as a result of this strike.

In a number of our issues we have pointed out the likelihood of this structure extending from Long's Creek both eastwardly and westwardly and that the southwestern portion of Owsley, around Island City, looked promising.

From information upon which we relied and believed our readers entitled to, we have from time to time in the Irvine Sun and, later, in the Oil World, furnished definite geological facts regarding Owsley, Breathitt and western Magoffin and stated that the following districts were, in the light of these facts, worthy of drilling tests, i. e.:

- 1st. Frozen Creek on the Wilhurst structure.
- 2nd. Long's Creek from Crockettville westward.
- 3rd. Taulbee district.
- 4th. Johnson's Fork (around Paxton.)
- 5th. War Creek.
- 6th. A large area west by north of Jackson on the main branch of Quicksand.
- 7th. The Johnson's fork anticline, south of Netty P. O., in Magoffin county.

Naturally we take some pleasure in announcing the success of both of the two tests so far drilled.

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**A WEEKLY**

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BOX 427, Lexington, Kentucky.



Both were wildcat tests far removed from production of any kind. Perhaps we have only been lucky, but does it not look like there may have been a pretty sound basis for the information we gave you?

Both the Frozen Creek and Rose wells seem to be fair producers, but from that standpoint they are of slight importance. Their big value lies in the fact that they disclosed regular conditions of the strata, a promising sand and good saturation.

If two out of seven rank wildcat districts were proven to be oil-bearing, that would seem a good percentage. But we are not hedging. If our information was good six months ago, before these wells were drilled and when we predicted that Mr. Stevenson would not get oil in the syncline southeast of Jackson, we are willing to play it somewhat further, and to continue without fear or favor to furnish to our readers the results of any geological work we believe to have been capably and honestly done. We will continue to add new districts as fast as we can secure the necessary information.

At this time we are unable to get the full information we desire regarding it, but we believe one of the big companies is preparing to test on a considerable scale a big district along the Breathitt-Magoffin county line between the head of Little Caney Creek and the head of Hunting Creek, near the corner where Wolfe, Breathitt and Magoffin counties join.

## WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE FIELDS

The best well in Oklahoma was one not yet a completion, but flowing 1,500 barrels a day, in the Red Fork district, Section 5-19-11. In no other part of the State was there anything unusual. The youngstown district, in Okmulgee county, saw the completion of wells good for 600, 750, 300 and 200 barrels, but they fail to compare with the wells completed earlier in that pool. The Coweta district, in Wagner county, reports wells of 300 and 200 barrels, and in Section 36-15-15, 11 askell district, Muskogee county, there is a 500-barrel well. A 235-barrel well in Cushing, Creek county, Section 11-17-7, evidenced events in that famous pool. In the Healdton field, a 200-barrel well was reported in Section 31-3-3. The wildcat districts reported naught but failures. The number of completions was comparatively small, several unusually busy districts reporting nothing finished.

In Kansas Butler county reported over a score of completions, but the producers did not average over 200 barrels, and the biggest well of the week was one swabbing 800 barrels, in Section 2-26-4. There were other wells starting off at 450, 440 and 300 barrels, but most of them were small for that district and the failures were numerous. A 100-barrel well was completed in Greenwood county, Section 36-25-8.

In North Texas, a failure was reported one-half mile east of the two wells at Ranger, Eastland county, and another duster, one-half mile north of Ranger. In Stephens county, eight miles north of Ranger, is a well with gas volume estimated at 18,000,000 feet and spraying some oil. Two dry holes were also reported in Parker county. The Electra pool furnished a 300-barrel well and a 200-barrel producer was completed in the Ramming pool.

On submerged land in the Goose Creek pool, the Gulf Production Company completed a 1,200-barrel well, which extends the producing limits 1,500 feet farther into the bay. Other Goose Creek completions were devoid of interest. West of the Batson pool, the Pinetop Oil Company had a gas blowout in its deep test on the Conselman farm.

Pine Island district, the latest productive pool in Louisiana, has a heavy-oil production of 15,850 barrels daily. Completions in that district included a 600-barrel and one 300-barrel well by The Texas Company, a 275-barrel well by Wolf & Keen and a 300-barrel producer by the Fortuna Oil & Gas Company. Attempts are being made to find a further eastern extension to the pool. White Brothers' wild gas well in Bossier Parish has formed a crater, into which the derrick has disappeared.

An important well has been completed and shot in Warren county, Kentucky, six miles east of Bowling Green. The well looks like a ten-barrel producer. It is located three miles east of the Fenn well on the Garrison farm. Completions in Estill county varied in initial production from five to seven barrels daily.

Drilling in the Eastern field failed to furnish any wells of importance, either in size or location. Lack of new territory is holding back operations in the East.

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## LEASES

700 acres on Black and Beech fork in Powell county. Two wells are being drilled on adjoining property. Rental 25.50 cents; one-eighth royalty. Five-year lease. This tract of land is about 1 mile of Clay City in Stanton fields.

150 acres with one-half mile of production; lays between the above 700 acres and Stanton oil fields. Price for the above two leases, \$17.50 per acre. The titles have been abstracted and pronounced good.

## ROYALTIES

One-sixteenth royalty on 60 acres north of Beattyville, within one-fourth mile of 100-barrel production. This lease is owned by a good company. We will be glad to give you further information on request. Price \$4,000.00.

One-sixteenth royalty on 36 acres in Lee county. Lease owned by Southwestern Petroleum Co. One-half mile of two good wells; one produces 100 barrels and other 200 barrels. This is proven territory. You can buy one-half of this for \$3,500.00

## B. J. Treacy

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ONE LOOK MEANS A LOT.

In the Rocky River district of Albany county, Wyoming, the Ohio Oil Company had a 60-barrel showing in the First Wall Creek sand. Producers at Thermopolis have ten producing wells shut in and are now arranging to lay a pipe line to the nearest railroad point. The Midwest Refining Company has the pipe for a line from the Salt Creek field to its refinery at Casper and work of stringing the pipe is now under way. The line will be of six- and eight-inch diameter.—Oil and Gas Journal.

## PETROLEUM TRADE NOTES.

Geary Dome Oil Company, of Wilmington, Del., capitalized at \$100,000, has applied for a Delaware charter.

Frank W. Besselman has been made superintendent of the Beaver Refining Company's refinery, succeeding H. W. March.

Another million-dollar corporation—the Big Ben Oil Company—has applied for a Delaware charter to do a general oil and gas business.

The Wichita Valley Refining Company of Iowa Park, Iowa, has increased its capital from \$50,000 to \$500,000 and will enlarge its plant.

At the annual meeting of the Swan & Finch Company the retiring directors were re-elected, and subsequently the officers were re-elected.

W. B. Gallagher, Inc., of New York, has just opened a western office in the Lytton building at Chicago. The office is under the management of George C. Weaver, formerly connected with the Union Petroleum Company in its Philadelphia, Chicago and Kansas City offices.

A new company of New Orleans capitalists will drill a test well for oil on the Passedora Orange and Developments Company's property near Empire, La. Good indications of oil have been found, and work of putting up the derrick and necessary machinery will begin at once.

Frederick Bosworth, an agent for the Standard Oil Company of Indiana, and his family had a narrow escape from death by fire last week at their home at 4632 North Winchester avenue, Chicago. Mr. Bosworth, his wife and their four children jumped from the second floor, but were not seriously hurt.

The Florida Kentucky Oil Company has been incorporated at Tampa under the laws of Florida with a capital of \$100,000. The company will develop 2,800 acres of oil and gas lands in Lincoln and Pulaski counties. Officers of the company are: John D. Hobbs, president and general manager; D. P. Weeks, vice president; John T. Adams, secretary and treasurer.

The Mid-Egypt Gas and Oil Company of Aurora, Ill., has been incorporated under the laws of Illinois with a capital stock of \$5,000. The incorporators are: B. P. Alschuler, R. C. Putnam and Lena J. Miller.

The Grand State Oil Company has been incorporated at Oklahoma City under the laws of Oklahoma with a capital of \$200,000 by George L. Rose and W. W. Riley of Oklahoma City, and Carl Cassidy of Grandfield, Okla.

The Bankers' Oil and Development Company of Chicago has filed an application for incorporation under the laws of Illinois with a capital stock of \$50,000. The incorporators are: Isaac Newman, Samuel H. Kaplan, David Miller and Sidney Freeman.

Capitalized at \$1,000,000 the Minnie Oil Company, Ind., has applied for a Delaware charter to produce and market petroleum and its products. Incorporators are: F. D. Buck, New Castle, Del.; M. E. Harty and K. E. Longfield, of Wilmington.

Greater Oklahoma Oil Corporation of Muskogee, Okla., will build an oil refinery at Eastland, Texas, that will have a daily output of 3,000 barrels. Besides the plant, the company will lay an eight-mile pipe line to the Ranger oil field and install a pumping station.

Oil lands will be acquired and developed by the Oklahoma American Oil Company, of Oklahoma City, Okla., under a charter for which it has applied a Dover, Del.; capital \$300,000; incorporators, J. B. Aiken, W. A. Darby and George Wolfe of Oklahoma City.

The estimated earnings of the Texas Company for the twelve months ended December 31, 1917, after providing for the Federal war taxes, are placed at \$25,000,000.

The Daniel Boone Oil Company has opened offices in the Herndon building in Lexington.

The stockholders of the Tuxpan Star Oil Corporation at a special meeting last week voted an increase of the capital stock to \$20,000,000.

A fire in the stores of the Standard Oil Company at Toledo, O., last week caused damage of more than \$100,000. A number of barrels were destroyed.

The Texas Lasinge Corporation, of Wilmington, Del., has secured a Delaware charter to develop, produce and market oil and gas.

The Sterling Oil Producers Company, of New York, has applied for a Delaware charter to produce and develop oil and gas.

The J. E. K. Oil and Gas Company of Mexico, D. F., has been organized with a capital stock of \$10,000. The incorporators are: J. E. K. and S. S. Allen.

## Bulletin "C"

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## Quality and Service

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Hoffman Oil Company of Kentucky owns and controls more than 105,000 acres of choice oil and gas leases.

It is actively developing portions of its properties and making arrangements to start operations in still other districts as rapidly as possible.

It is now negotiating with parties to take over gas properties and install casing-head gasoline plants for the manufacture of gasoline from natural gas.

The time to get into any oil company is in its infancy, while stock can be secured at a low price. Hoffman stock is now selling at \$3.00 per share, par value \$10.00 per share, fully paid and non-assessable. Terms if desired.

Special inducements are now being offered for immediate subscription, which should pay back the original investment in a short time and leave the stock interest free of cost. This special proposition will soon be fully subscribed.

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## MILLIONS OF BARRELS OF FUEL OIL TO BE SAVED UNDER PENDING WATER POWER BILL

WASHINGTON, May 10.—The Administration Water Power Bill, which carries the approval of three secretaries and the President, is expected to be favorably reported from the special water power committee to Congress in another week.

Arrangements are now being made for Secretary Baker, of the War Department, and Secretary Houston, of the Department of Agriculture, to appear before the committee. The absence of Secretary Baker from this country and the necessity for him to take some time after his return to get in touch again with all conditions on a question which so intimately concerns his department has been the real cause of delay in closing the hearings.

After the two secretaries have testified it is expected that a closing statement for the Administration will be made by O. C. Merrill, engineer of the Forestry Service, who has been handling this measure for the Government.

It is expected that these hearings will not occupy more than two days and that the special committee, which is made up of three Democrats and three Republicans from a list of those committees, Agriculture, Public Lands and Interior, and Commerce, will then go into executive session without further delay.

As there is no serious disagreement in the committee and no serious opposition outside, it is expected that the bill will be promptly reported to Congress. A special rule will be invoked, if necessary, to expedite consideration for this bill as soon as it has been reported to the House. This is the first time in the history of the House that a bill has ever been reported to the House in less than 24 hours.

Production of oil in the United States is one of the most important factors in the development of the chemical industry. Considerable manufacturing has been started in California since the war, and it is expected that the Federal Government will be largely increased activity in all lines of chemical manufacturing as soon as it is mechanically possible after the passage of the act.

The bill, introduced last Saturday by Mark L. Requa and by Bernard M. Baruch, will require the Federal Government to increase the output of oil, the Federal Government will be forced to consider these properties and operate them for the advantage of the Government to meet war needs has a direct bearing on the water power situation.

The bill who drafted the bill say that with adequate legislation and possibly some aid through the War Finance Corporation within two years more than a million barrels of oil could be released in California which is now being used in the production of steam electric power.

This is considered a very important phase of conservation, as production of oil is falling behind consumption at the rate of a million barrels a month. The best way to counteract that are:

First—By using water power instead of steam power in central stations. Second—What will take longer, but which will eventually be a tremendous saving, through electrification of the railroads, since the really big volume of oil is being consumed by the railroads.

In this connection the Bureau of Mines has reported that there is going to be a relative shortage of 17,000,000 barrels of oil during the next year in the United States, and a relative shortage of 75,000,000 tons of coal. The demand must be to use something else, and so the obvious and practical thing seems to Congress to be the use of water power.

This point is also emphasized by the fact that a great deal more power is going to be required during the next year than during the last year to turn the wheels of war industries. With coal and oil going (relatively) and the demand for power going up both relatively and absolutely, the members of Congress are growing stronger each day in their conviction that this water power legislation must be promptly enacted.

Those who are in charge of this question for the government departments under the general direction of O. C. Merrill, engineer of the Forestry Service, say that after the legislation is passed the Federal Government will give authority to those who wish to operate under the law. They will not need to delay until the commission has been organized and the forces employed.

Two big plants are already being urged in California by the State Council of Defense and the State Railroad and Fuel Commissions.

It is probable that such enterprises may require some financial co-operation from the War Finance Corporation, but, whether they are financed independently or in connection with the Federal Government support, the work will be started immediately.

The Southern California Edison Company has been urged to extend its system and two companies have been asked to build big plants on the Feather River. There is no doubt in the minds of the Federal authorities that, if the law is passed and the agencies arranged, work on these and other plants will be started this year.

## MARCH OUTPUT OF CRUDE OIL HIGHER; PIPE LINE AND REFINERY OPERATIONS INCREASE

A summary of the movement of crude petroleum in March, 1918, representing the operations of 100 pipeline and refining companies that handle or receive oil directly from the productive fields east of the Rocky Mountains, is compiled from reports received by the United States Geological Survey, prior to April 26, 1918.

This compilation includes statements filed by 15 companies operating in the Appalachian field; 11 in the Lima-Indiana field; six in the Illinois field; 66 in the Oklahoma-Kansas field; 11 in the Central and North Texas field; 8 in the North Louisiana field; 10 in the Gulf Coast field and 6 in the Rocky Mountain field.

### Crude Petroleum Moved from Field Sources. (Barrels of 42 gallons each.)

Field.	March, 1918.	Feb., 1918.	March, 1917.
Appalachian	2,093,573	1,893,012	2,057,050
Lima-Indiana	200,000	227,730	317,594
Illinois	1,185,186	1,017,952	1,434,254
Oklahoma-Kansas	13,018,078	10,511,225	11,537,828
Central and North Texas	5,060,070	5,095,531	8,275,810
North Louisiana	800,320	610,867	757,652
Gulf Coast	1,766,124	1,538,323	1,887,790
Rocky Mountain	1,057,713	793,320	747,078

### Apparent Deliveries of Crude Petroleum to Refineries (Barrels of 42 gallons each.)

Class of oil.	March, 1918.	Feb., 1918.	March, 1917.
Appalachian	2,030,005	1,787,203	2,041,342
Lima-Indiana	341,821	527,150	135,481
Illinois	1,210,521	694,121	1,409,213
Oklahoma-Kansas	13,471,137	12,335,012	12,085,781
Central and North Texas	677,886	929,440	1,803,517
North Louisiana	855,000	718,315	831,891
Gulf Coast	2,210,388	1,583,810	1,902,955
Rocky Mountain	931,104	862,811	818,191

### Stocks of Crude Petroleum at End of Month (Barrels of 42 gallons each.)

Class of oil.	March, 1918.	Feb., 1918.	March, 1917.
Appalachian	3,033,201	3,033,206	3,010,153
Lima-Indiana	1,500,320	1,017,538	2,550,932
Illinois	3,257,570	3,291,008	5,460,931
Oklahoma-Kansas	93,206,050	93,719,050	100,801,344
Central and North Texas	3,317,732	3,050,130	2,273,064
North Louisiana	4,180,013	4,535,122	5,262,301
Gulf Coast	8,373,154	8,820,118	9,971,790
Rocky Mountain	635,839	500,230	807,290

Statistics of petroleum movement in California are not included in this tabulation because of delays incident to procuring first-hand data.

With regard to production, as indicated by the table of petroleum moved from field sources, the summary for March is noteworthy in that it records substantial gain over February in each of the fields listed; appreciable gain over March, 1917, in all except the Lima-Indiana, Illinois and Gulf Coast fields, and for the first time a monthly production in excess of 1,000,000 barrels in the

Rocky Mountain field. In the territory to which this summary relates production in March, 1918, was 20.3 per cent. greater than in February, 1918, and 7.7 per cent. greater than in March, 1917.

Slight additions were made in March to stocks of Appalachian oil and of North Texas oil, but withdrawals of other classes resulted in a net depletion of about 600,000 barrels.

The apparent consumption of crude oil in March was 11.5 per cent. greater than in February, but only 1.1 per cent. greater than in March, 1917.

## CRUDE PRICE CHANGES SINCE JANUARY 1, 1917

The following are the price changes in crude oil quotations, beginning January 1, 1917:

January 2—North and South Lima, Indiana, Wooster, Illinois and Princeton advanced 10c; Petrolia, 5c.

January 3—All grades of light Caddo, De Soto, Kansas and Oklahoma advanced 10c.

January 4—Plymouth, Corsicana light, Henrietta, Thrall, Strawn, Moran, Yale and Canada advanced 10c; Corsicana-heavy and Healdton advanced 5c.

January 5—Pennsylvania advanced 10c; Mercer black, Corning, Cabell and Somerset advanced 5c; Ragland advanced 2c.

January 6—Kansas and Oklahoma, Crichton advanced 10c.

January 8—Caddo light, Caddo heavy, De Soto, North Lima, South Lima, Indiana, Illinois, Wooster, Princeton, Plymouth, Corsicana light, Henrietta, Thrall, Strawn, Moran and Yale advanced 10c; Corsicana heavy and Healdton advanced 5c; Petrolia, 10c.

January 9—Pennsylvania advanced 10c; Mercer black, Corning, Cabell and Somerset advanced 5c; Ragland advanced 5c.

January 12—Kansas-Oklahoma advanced 10c to \$1.70.

January 13—Healdton advanced 5c to 6c; Corsicana light, Henrietta, Electra, Thrall, Strawn, Moran, Yale and Plymouth advanced 10c.

January 23—All grades of light Caddo, De Soto and Crichton advanced 10c.

January 27—Indiana advanced 5c.

January 30—North Lima, South Lima, Indiana, Wooster, Illinois and Princeton advanced 5c; Petrolia, 5c.

February 16—Crichton advanced 10c.

March 9—Caddo light and De Soto advanced 10c.

March 14—Caddo heavy advanced 5c.

March 17—All grades of light Caddo and De Soto crude advanced 10c.

April 4—Goose Creek reduced 10c a barrel to 10c.

April 16—North and South Lima, Indiana, Wooster, Illinois and Princeton increased 5c.

April 17—Pennsylvania advanced 5c; Mercer black, Corning, Cabell and Somerset, 2c; Canada advanced 5c.

May 1—Wooster advanced 5c.

May 11—California grades advanced 5c a barrel.

May 15—Mercer black reduced 2c to \$2.18.

June 7—All California grades advanced 10c.

June 27—All California grades advanced 10c.

July 6—Wyoming oil advanced 10c a barrel.

August 1—Healdton advanced 10c; Corsicana 10c.

August 3—Mid-continent crude advanced 15c a barrel.

August 7—Healdton advanced 10c, Corsicana having advanced 5c to \$1.

August 13—Pennsylvania advanced 15c; Mercer black, 5c; Corning, 10c; Cabell, 10c; Somerset, 10c; Ragland, 10c.

August 15—Kansas-Oklahoma advanced 20c by Prairie, 5c more than increase by Sinclair Company, August 3. Corsicana heavy advanced 5c, Healdton 10c; North Texas advanced to \$1.60 basis; Lima, Princeton, Illinois, Wooster and Indiana advanced 10c.

August 18—Mid-continent crude advanced 10c.

August 20—Pennsylvania advanced 25c to \$3.50 a barrel. Canada crude advanced 20c to \$2.38, other Pennsylvania group oil 10c, except Mercer black and Ragland.

August 20—Corsicana light, Electra, Henrietta, Thrall, Strawn, Moran and Yale advanced 10c; Healdton advanced 5c.

August 22—Caddo advanced 10c; De Soto 10c and Red River grades 10c.

September 1—Goose Creek advanced 10c to \$1.

September 3—Grass Creek and Elk Basin, Wyoming, advanced 20c. Big Muddy advanced 10c.

December 4—Pennsylvania advanced 25c; Corning 20c; Cabell and Somerset 15c; aReland 10c.

January 1—Grass Creek, \$1.70; Elk Basin and Greybull, \$1.70; Salt Creek and Big Muddy, \$1.20; Lander, 90c.

February 8, 1918—Pennsylvania advanced 25c; Corning, Cabell, Somerset and Ragland advanced 5c.

February 9—North and South Lima, Indiana, Wooster, Illinois and Princeton advanced 10c.

February 14—Salt Creek and Big Muddy advanced 10c.

February 15—Gulf Coast oils all advanced 35c.

March 16—Healdton crude and Corsicana heavy advanced 25c.

March 18—Mid-continent crude advanced 25c.

March 19—North Texas crude advanced 25c.

March 21—North and South Lima, Indiana, Wooster, Illinois, Princeton and Plymouth advanced 10c.

March 18—Wyoming-Big Muddy advanced 20c; Elk Basin and Grass Creek, 15c.

March 22—All North Louisiana oils increased 25c.

May 1—All crudes of California advanced 25c.

## WIRE ROPE SHORTAGE NOT PERMANENT; REQUA HOLDS CONFERENCE WITH MAKERS

WASHINGTON, D. C.—M. L. Requa, Director of the Oil Division of the Fuel Administration, held a conference in New York recently with wire rope makers representing every firm engaged in this line of manufacture in the United States. The meeting was called to discuss a possible impending shortage of wire rope for oil well drilling purposes, a situation which Mr. Requa believed to be threatening.

It was developed at the conference, however, that while there has been an enormous demand for wire rope from the Government which has caused some immediate shortage, there is no cause for the oil industry to be alarmed. With production of the factories undergoing considerable enlargement, the manufacturers stated that they would be able to meet all needs this year. Mr. Requa afterward stated that the only possibility of a scarcity for the oil trade was that the Army and Navy might place some unlooked-for large orders.

Among those present at the conference was Carl G. Roehling, of John A. Roehling's Sons Co., who is chairman of the sub-committee on wire rope of the Committee on Steel and Steel Products, of which H. H. Gary is chairman. This is one of the sub-committees of the American Iron and Steel Institute acting with a view toward enabling the Government and essential industries to procure what rope may be necessary for their needs. Other members of the committee are Frank Bauckes and John J. Broderick. Mr. Requa announced that the wire rope committee was working in full accord with the Oil Division of the Fuel Administration.

It was pointed out at the conference that between 20,000 and 25,000 tons of wire rope would be required to equip the projected enlargements in oil and gas production in the United States this year. The manufacturers promised that this tonnage could be successfully supplied.

Mr. Requa had a word of warning to say in the matter of prices charged for wire rope. "I find," he said, "that there has been considerable profiteering in wire rope, not by the manufacturers, but by jobbers. This profiteering has amounted to as high as 300 per cent. That practice we will stop wherever found. The provisions of the Lever law under which the Fuel Administration is working will be applied to correct this abuse."

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In addition to 108-acre Spencer lease the company has acquired 93-acre J. F. Stovall lease, in Allen County, adjoining Johnson farm, which has three flowing wells estimated at 500—1,000 barrels daily, each. Mr. Johnson is said to have refused \$80,000.00 for his one-eighth royalty interest.

A well is now drilling on this lease, which may fairly be regarded as the richest single tract in Kentucky in potential production.

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## PERSONALS

We are all glad the races are over— (Signed): ALLOFUS.

Charles Evelynth, of Beattyville, who is headed toward the multimillionaire class, was here this week.

Dick Veitch, of Beattyville, was in the city this week, and as usual had a crop of fertile stories to tell the boys.

J. C. Heydrick has returned from Texas and Oklahoma.

W. J. Homer, of the Nela Refining Company, was in the city this week.

W. S. Raydure, of Bowling Green, Ohio, who was one of the original operators in the Irvine field, is a visitor this week.

Clarence Miller, of Irvine, passed through Lexington Monday on his way back home from French Lick Springs feeling fit and trim and as fresh as a two-year-old.

N. S. Stephenson, the popular and successful contractor of the Kentucky fields, was here this week.

C. M. Blair, of Shade, a new one in the oil business, was here this week.

Millard Harris, of Irvine, one of Estill county's foremost young financiers, spent a few days here this week.

R. W. Ransom, J. E. Neely and O. J. Karl, of Sistersville, W. Va., are looking over the fields this week.

J. H. Dickson, of New Martinsville, W. Va., is here on business.

B. C. McIntyre, who has been here for some time, is preparing to do considerable development work soon for G. G. Hyson & Co., of New York.

A dry hole in Eastern Kentucky is somewhat of a rarity nowadays.

Tom Hoover, the veteran driller, was here for a few days this week.

P. J. White, of New York, was here this week.

Oscar Sears has returned from a business trip to New York.

Lee Watson and Dean Eggert motored to Louisville to attend the Derby.

Jim Heydrick has returned from a trip to Texas.

Jack Milden is back from a scout trip to the Ranger and Brownwood districts of Texas.

Dr. W. E. Stewart and Ira Huff motored to Louisville to attend the Derby.

C. E. Goeman left Friday for a few days at Charleston, W. Va.

The Liberty Bond owners are straight, place and show.

J. H. Dugan, one of the incorporators of the Liberty Oil, Gas and Manufacturing Company, leaves May 27 for Camp Lee, W. Va., where he will enter the army.

John Wallace, of Irvine, was here this week.

"Boni" Sales, of Beattyville, of Star Board fame, was here this week in his working clothes.

Charles Evelynth cashed in a lot of long-shot tickets.

Ed Ripard, of Irvine, is spending a few days in the city on business.

Andrew McNish, of Chicago, president of the Cherokee Oil Company, was here this week.

Joe Hervey, of Cleveland, was in the city this week.

W. E. Simons, of Waveross, Ga., has returned from Chicago and will be in the Kentucky fields for a few days.

John J. Canley, of Detroit, connected with the White Star Refining Company, and Mr. Frois are spending a few days in Western Kentucky scouting.

Will Poulos, of Ravenna, a favorite among the oil men and not incidentally a champion fisherman and frog-lee finder, has purchased a launch that will ply the placid bosom of the Kentucky river in the vicinity of Irvine this summer for the benefit of the oil men. Bill is an all-round sport and a likable fellow.

(Continued from Page One, Third Column.)

The Gaines Oil Company, on the Ambrose farm, are at work on No. 1.

The Lincoln Oil & Gas Company are drilling their first on the Allen Flynn property. Contracts for four wells on this tract have been let.

On Big Sinking, the Eastern Gulf Oil Company is due in with No. 3, Eph Angel.

I. G. Fleming and others are due in with No. 1, Kincaid.

The Ohio Oil Company, drilling at No. 2, have a well credited with 50 barrels on the Charles Evelynth farm.

Carl K. Dresser is ready to case No. 1, George Pendergrass.

Jesse T. Hare and others have a rig on the Poplar Thicket property, adjoining the Shearer tract, being developed by the Hope-well Petroleum Company. Hare and others will also drill in No. 1, Millard Estes, the first of next week.

The Grassy Creek Oil and Gas Company will spud in Monday at No. 1, W. B. Head, at Willow Shoals. This company is largely in the hands of Peter Powell, of Lexington.

Gourley & Parrish are spudding in at No. 1, on the Webb tract. Foster & Bahan are drilling No. 2, J. W. F. Williams tract, and are expected in during the latter part of next week.

The Gasper Oil Company is at work at No. 1, Price.

The Carter Oil Company has spudded in at No. 5, on a section of the D. B. Pendergrass tract.

C. M. Purdy and others are spudding in at No. 1, Bowman.

The Peerless Oil Company's No. 2, Dave Hampton, is under way.

The Pan-American Oil Company is ready to case No. 2, Dave Gilbert.

The Woolfolk Oil Company is drilling No. 2, Tyree Hughes.

The Rockshoals Oil Company, drilling No. 5, Dudley Short, near Heidelberg, will be in next week.

The California Petroleum Company is drilling No. 4, A. H. Warner. No. 1, on this farm, was a gasser at 310 feet; the tools were lost at No. 2, and salt water was encountered at No. 3.

## Estill County.

In Estill county, Wagersville district, the Lexington Oil Corporation's latest on the Ambrose Wagers property will make 10 barrels. The Tidal Oil Company has a well credited with 40 barrels or better at No. 19 on the Maple tract.

The La Salle Oil Company is at work on No. 7, Sam Rogers. Harris and others got a duster at No. 1 Callon Cox. No. 2 on the Cox heirs property in the same vicinity, is also reported dry.

## Powell County.

In Powell county Neely & Clover got a light pumper at No. 3, Charles Means. The rig is being moved to No. 4.

The Wood Oil Company is moving a rig to the John Mullen farm. In the Pilot district, T. M. Beckett et al got a 5-barrel producer at No. 5 E. A. Wiseman.

J. D. Drake and others got a duster at No. 2 on the Widow Amburgy farm.

The Ohio Valley Oil and Gas Company, drilling at No. 5, R. Townsend, got a 15-barrel producer.

The Kentucky Petroleum Producing Company, at No. 13 David Patrick, scored a 30-barrel well.

The Ohio Fuel Oil Company's No. 1 W. Z. Whisman pumps 5 barrels.

In the Ravenna district, the Wood Oil Company's No. 1 Ike Neal is rated at 5 barrels.

White, Newton & Moore got a 10-barrel producer at No. 20, L. W. Bratton.

The Bourbon Oil and Development Company is drilling at 650 feet at No. 2, J. G. Rogers.

## Wolfe County.

In Wolfe county, the Beckett-Iseman Oil and Gas Company got a 10-barrel well at No. 4 S. B. Smith.

White Brothers and Huff, drilling at No. 4 Spencer heirs, got one credited with 30 barrels.

## Western Kentucky.

In Allen county, in the Western Kentucky fields, Harkness and others got a 15-barrel well at their latest on the Wheat farm, in the Trammel Creek district.

Snowden Brothers, drilling on the Oliver farm, have one credited with 10 barrels.

In Warren county, on the Bunch farm, McClanahan and associates got a 10-barrel producer.

(Continued from Page One, Second Column)

the large holdings of the company on Frozen Creek, in Jackson county. The Big Six Company is one of the holders of lands in the county, having about 3,000 acres adjacent to the Fulton well, at Vaneleve, and other lands.

Among those interested in the new company are Lewis Hays, Mayor of Jackson; Representative Ryland C. Musick, A. M. Sutton, A. C. Carpenter and Roy Williams, of the firm of M. S. Corlin & Company, of this city. Frankfort and Lexington parties are also interested.

## Other Trade Notes.

At a meeting of the board of directors of the Rex Oil & Gas Company, held in Winchester, Wednesday, it was decided to increase the capital stock of the corporation from \$30,000 to \$100,000, and to amend the articles of the company to that effect. This order was made pursuant to the written consent of the owners of over two-thirds of the present capital stock.

## RUNS AND COMPLETIONS.

The oil runs from Kentucky districts for the week ending May 4, show a decrease of 1,626.05 barrels, as compared with 72,796.28 barrels, run from the same fields, during the week ending April 27.

During the week just past the Fitchburg, Ravenna and Pilot districts showed heavier runs than usual, while the Zachariah district of Lee county produced 2,429 barrels.

The following are the runs, as reported by the Cumberland Pipe Line Company, for last week:

Busseyville	207.04
Fallsburg	1,409.14
Cooper	843.08
Denney	530.43
Staubenville	1,259.56
Camel City	546.26
Fitchburg	15,172.87
Ravenna	7,209.04
Ravenna	5,401.51
Ravenna	12,790.14
Campton	300.32
Wagersville	1,319.36
Beaver Creek	250.00
Ragland	354.58
Parmleyville	780.52
Pilot	14,176.52
Pilot	5,546.63
Zachariah	2,429.23
Stillwater	644.00
Total	71,170.23
Total previous week	72,796.28
Decrease	1,626.05
Daily average	10,167.18

The following completions reported in districts reached by the lines of the Cumberland Pipe Line Company:

Fallsburg, Lawrence county—	
A. J. Dalton, et al., No. 4, Wiley Austin	4
Staubenville, Wayne county—	
Wood Oil Company, No. 12, T. C. Morrow lease	5
Ravenna, Estill county—	
Wood Oil Company, No. 1, Ike Keal	5
Campton, Wolfe county—	
Beckett-Iseman Oil & Gas Company, No. 4, S. B. Smith	10
Wagersville, Estill county—	
Lexington Oil Company, No. 1, Wagers heirs	10
Harris & Company, No. 1, Callon Cox	dry
Tague & Company, No. 2, Cox heirs	dry
Pilot, Powell county—	
G. N. Beckett, et al., No. 5, E. A. Wiseman	5
J. D. Drake, No. 2, Widow Ambury	dry
Ohio Valley Oil & Gas Company, No. 5, R. Townsend	15
Alex. Summers & Son, No. 1, Simp McIntosh	Small showing
Kentucky Petroleum Producing Co., No. 13, D. Patrick	20
Ohio Fuel Company, No. 1, W. Z. Whisman	5
Zachariah, Lee county—	
P. J. White, No. 4, Spencer heirs	50
Hochstetter & Company, Western Petroleum Co., No. 12	
Spencer heirs	50

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